

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF MISSISSIPPI  
NORTHERN DIVISION**

**MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION OF  
EDUCATORS, ET AL.**

**PLAINTIFFS**

**VS.**

**CIVIL ACTION NO. 3:25-cv-00417-HTW-LGI**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE  
INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING, ET AL.**

**DEFENDANTS**

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**DEFENDANTS' RESPONSE IN OPPOSITION TO PLAINTIFFS' MOTION TO  
EXTEND TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER**

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All Defendants, by and through counsel, file this their response in opposition to *Plaintiffs' Motion to Extend Temporary Restraining Order* [ECF #61], and in support thereof would show unto the Court the following:

1. Plaintiffs' motion to extend the temporary restraining order should be denied for reasons set forth in the defendants' response in opposition to Plaintiffs' motion for temporary restraining order, the defendants' response in opposition to Plaintiffs' motion for preliminary injunction, and their supporting memoranda of authorities [ECF #20, #21, #42, and #43].
2. Defendants adopt and incorporate by reference the applicable arguments and authorities set forth in the aforementioned oppositional responses and supporting memoranda of authorities [ECF #20, #21, #42, and #43].
3. Accordingly, Defendants respectfully request that the Court waive any requirement for the filing of a separate memorandum of authorities.

**WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED**, Defendants respectfully request that the Court make and enter its Order denying *Plaintiffs' Motion to Extend Temporary Restraining Order* [ECF #61].

THIS the 1st day of August, 2025.

Respectfully submitted,

LYNN FITCH, IN HER OFFICIAL CAPACITY AS ATTORNEY GENERAL OF MISSISSIPPI; GEE OGLETREE, IN HIS OFFICIAL CAPACITY AS PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING; STEVEN CUNNINGHAM, AMY ARRINGTON, DONALD CLARK, JR., ORMELLA CUMMINGS, JERRY L. GRIFFITH, JIMMY HEIDELBERG, TERESA HUBBARD, BRUCE MARTIN, HAL PARKER, GREGG RADER, AND CHARLIE STEPHENSON, ALL IN THEIR OFFICIAL CAPACITIES AS MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING; JOHN PIGOTT, IN HIS OFFICIAL CAPACITY AS CHAIR OF THE MISSISSIPPI COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD; CHERYL THURMOND, VIDET CARMICHAEL, DONNIE CAUGHMAN, BUBBA HUDSPETH, DOLLY MARASCALCO, JOHNNY MCRIGHT, LUKE MONTGOMERY, WILL SYMMES, AND DIANNE WATSON, ALL IN THEIR OFFICIAL CAPACITIES AS MEMBERS OF THE MISSISSIPPI COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD; GLEN EAST, IN HIS OFFICIAL CAPACITY AS CHAIR OF THE MISSISSIPPI STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION; MATT MILLER, LANCE EVANS, WENDI BARRETT, MATT MAYO, BILL JACOBS, RONNIE MCGEHEE, MIKE PRUITT, BILLYE JEAN STROUD, AND MARY WERNER, ALL IN THEIR OFFICIAL CAPACITIES AS MEMBERS OF THE MISSISSIPPI STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION; MARCY SCOGGINS, IN HER OFFICIAL CAPACITY AS CHAIR OF THE MISSISSIPPI CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZER BOARD;

AND JAY CARNEY, SANDRA MCKIERNON,  
ERIN MEYER, BEN MORGAN, CANDACE  
ROBINS, AND JENNIFER JACKSON  
WHITTIER, ALL IN THEIR OFFICIAL  
CAPACITIES AS MEMBERS OF THE  
MISSISSIPPI CHARTER SCHOOL  
AUTHORIZER BOARD, DEFENDANTS

By: LYNN FITCH, ATTORNEY GENERAL  
STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

By: s/Rex M. Shannon III  
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ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANTS

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, Rex M. Shannon III, Special Assistant Attorney General and attorney for the above-named defendants, do hereby certify that I have this date caused to be filed with the Clerk of the Court a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing via the Court's ECF filing system, which sent notification of such filing to all counsel of record.

THIS the 1st day of August, 2025.

s/Rex M. Shannon III  
REX M. SHANNON III